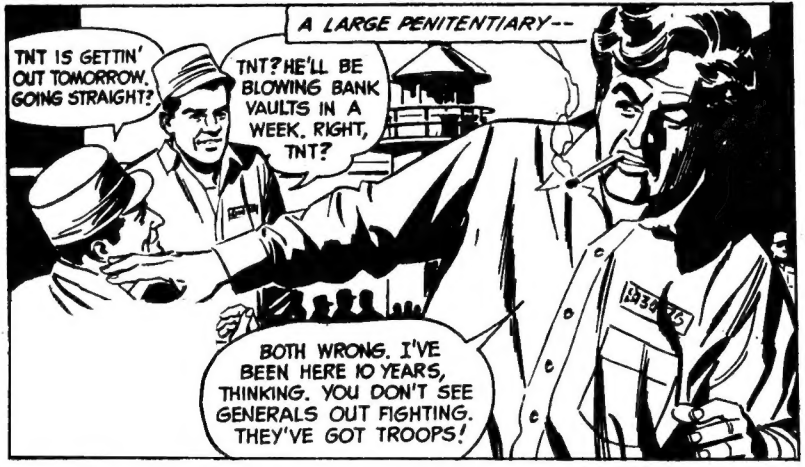

A LARGE PENITENTIARY--
TNT IS GETTIN' OUT TOMORROW. GOING STRAIGHT?
TNT? HE'LL BE BLOWING BANK VAULTS IN A WEEK. RIGHT, TNT?
BOTH WRONG. I'VE BEEN HERE 10 YEARS, THINKING. YOU DON'T SEE GENERALS OUT FIGHTING. THEY'VE GOT TROOPS!

I HEAR THIS IS THE AGE OF YOUTH--THE "UNDER 25'S." I WANT THEM FOR MY TROOPS!
LINE UP!
FALK & BARRY 3/20

GOOD LUCK OUTSIDE, TNT. HOPE WE DON'T SEE YOU HERE AGAIN.
NOT A CHANCE, WARDEN. I'VE GOT PLANS!

A CRIME SCHOOL? ARE YOU CRAZY, TNT?
YOU'RE THE TOP SAFE-CRACKER, MANNY. HOW MUCH TIME HAVE YOU PUT IN THE PEN?

15 YEARS, @#&!!#!
HARRY— NO. 1 HIJACKER—HOW MANY FOR YOU?
12, #&%@!!

ALL YOU GUYS--TOPS IN YOUR FIELDS. A MUG'S GAME! WE'LL GET TROOPS--TEACH 'EM, SEND 'EM OUT, PROTECT 'EM--COLLECT!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO FIND TROOPS, TNT?
OUT THERE. THE STREETS ARE LOADED. I'LL SHOW YOU.

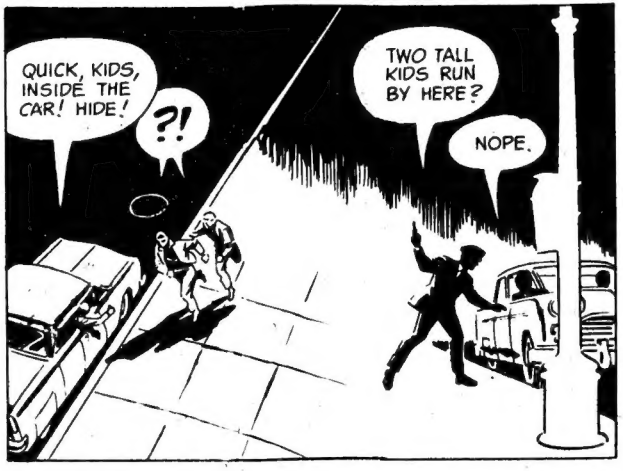
TERROR IN THE STREET!

A "RUMBLE" BETWEEN YOUNG GANGS!

THE FUZZ!
RUN!

OUR FUTURE TROOPS! WE RECRUIT TOMORROW--THEN WE ENROLL 'EM --OUR FRESHMAN CLASS.
IS THIS AN ARMY, OR A SCHOOL?
I DUNNO--

FUZZ!
RUN!


QUICK, KIDS, INSIDE THE CAR! HIDE!
?!
TWO TALL KIDS RUN BY HERE?
NOPE.

THANKS. WE'LL TAKE OFF NOW.
WE WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

!
!!
UH!

VICIOUSLY BEAT AND ROBBED THE OLD GROCER--
THE COURT WILL APPOINT A LAWYER TO--
YOUR HONOR--

--I'M THEIR LAWYER. I HAVE CASH BAIL FOR THEIR RELEASE--
??
FALK & BARRY 3/24

YOU HIRED THE LAWYER AND PAID OUR BAIL?
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU.
YOU WILL. HOP IN.

KIDS IN TROUBLE, KIDS ON THE LAM, OUT OF REFORM SCHOOL, HEADED FOR JAIL--ALL SORTS!

STUDENTS MEET THE FACULTY!
FELLOWS, CALL ME TNT. WE BROUGHT YOU HERE TO TEACH YOU THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW, FREE!
AND US RICHER.
WE'RE GOING TO MAKE YOU ALL RICH!
??!

CRIME SCHOOL--USES OF EXPLOSIVES-
T.N.T.-IS THAT STUFF REAL?
NAW, DUMMIES. SEE, YOU CAN USE A TIMER, OR A LONG FUSE--

GOTTA HAVE PATIENCE. HEAR THOSE TUMBLERS? LISTEN FOR THE CLICKS--

KEEP THEM CLEAN. DON'T WANT THEM JAMMING AT THE WRONG TIME!
GEE, NEVER SAW A GUN LIKE THAT!

GOT IT? A LITTLE HARDER, I'D HAVE BROKEN HIS NECK!
OW!

YOU KIDS'VE BEEN THRU LOTS OF LESSONS. NOW, ABOUT THE COPS! JUST LISTEN CAREFULLY!
CRIME SCHOOL.
YOU GET CAUGHT, TELL 'EM NOTHING! YOU GOT A RIGHT TO PHONE. CALL ME! GOT IT?
YEAH, YES, OKAY.
FALK & BARRY 3/28

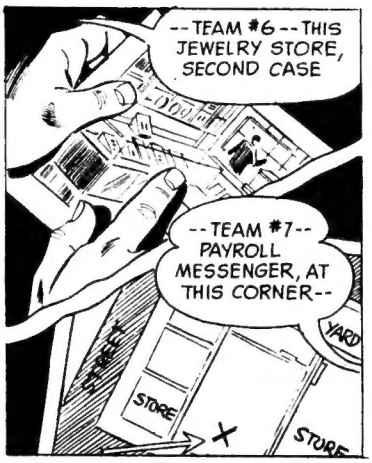
NEVER TALK ABOUT US, OR THIS PLACE! IT'S ALL SUPER-SECRET! NOW-- ANY QUESTIONS?
UH, YES, SIR--

SUPPOSE A GUY WANTS TO QUIT, GET OUT, LIKE I DO NOW.
I'M GLAD YOU ASKED THAT, PETE. A GOOD QUESTION.

PETE'S ASKED A GOOD QUESTION--
WHAT IF SOMEONE WANTS TO QUIT US, LIKE HE DOES NOW? CORRECT?
RIGHT.

DOES THAT ANSWER THE QUESTION?

--TEAM #5 – HERE'S OUR JOB. SUPERMARKET. MANAGER'S OFFICE HERE. LITTLE SAFE WITH BIG CASH. PERSUADE HIM TO OPEN IT!


--TEAM #6--THIS JEWELRY STORE, SECOND CASE
--TEAM #7-- PAYROLL MESSENGER, AT THIS CORNER--
STREET
STORE
YARD
STORE

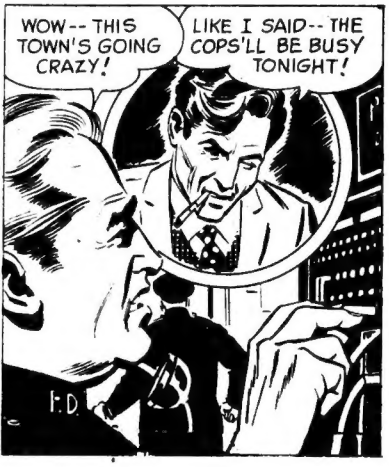
TEN TEAMS, YOU ALL HAVE YOUR PLANS AND ORDERS. TONIGHT'S THE BIG PUSH.. GO!

IF HALF OF 'EM MAKE IT, IT'LL BE A BIG HAUL! THE POLICE'LL BE BUSY TONIGHT!

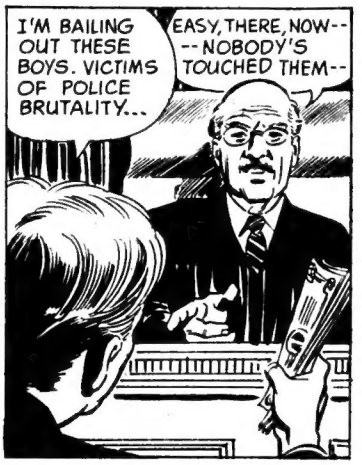
THE "FRESHMEN" IN THEIR FIRST TRY--A SUPERMARKET--
THAT SAFE'S LOADED. OPEN IT, OR ELSE!
!

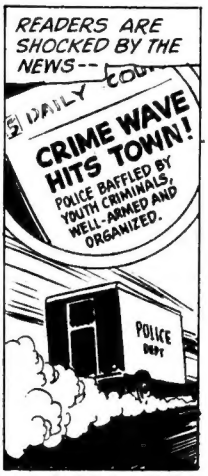
A JEWELRY STORE--
KEEP YOUR HANDS UP! ANYBODY MOVES, GETS IT!

A FEW JOBS GO "WRONG"-- LIKE THE PAYROLL MESSENGER--


WOW-- THIS TOWN'S GOING CRAZY!
LIKE I SAID-- THE COPS'LL BE BUSY TONIGHT!
F.D.

WE'RE NOT TALKING! WE WANT TO PHONE OUR LAWYER!
OKAY. THAT'S YOUR RIGHT.
HOW'D THESE KIDS GET SO SMART?


I'M BAILING OUT THESE BOYS. VICTIMS OF POLICE BRUTALITY...
EASY, THERE, NOW-- --NOBODY'S TOUCHED THEM--


READERS ARE SHOCKED BY THE NEWS--
DAILY
CRIME WAVE HITS TOWN!
POLICE BAFFLED BY YOUTH CRIMINALS, WELL-ARMED AND ORGANIZED.
POLICE DEPT

--INCLUDING A VISITOR FROM FAR AWAY--
?

MOST HOUSES, EVEN GRAND ONES, LOOK ORDINARY FROM THE OUTSIDE--
PALM
FALK & BARRY 4/3

--BEHIND WALLS, THERE ARE OFTEN SECRETS-- AND MYSTERIES--
?
SOMETHING ABOUT THIS PUZZLES ME--
DARLING-- YOU'RE HERE TO VISIT ME -- NOT FIGHT CRIME!
POLICE BAFFLED BY
YES--I MUST RETURN TO THE JUNGLE SOON, DIANA--
SO-- WE CAN'T WASTE THIS SHORT TIME--
YOUTH CRIME WAVE
WHY DOES THIS PUZZLE YOU?
SO WELL-- ORGANIZED, TRAINED, FINANCED--
I'M PUZZLED, TOO-- DO YOU ALWAYS WEAR THAT MASK AND—ER—ALL?
YES, PART OF MY OATH AS THE PHANTOM, MRS. PALMER.
OLD MYTHS SAY IT'S DEATH TO SEE THE PHANTOM'S FACE, RIGHT?
NO ONE IS SUPPOSED TO SEE THE PHANTOM'S FACE--
--EXCEPT HIS WIFE--
ER--MORE COFFEE, ANYONE?
HE ALWAYS WEARS THAT MASK-- AND OUT-FIT. WOULDN'T YOU THINK DIANA'D OBJECT?
NONSENSE, LILY.
WHAT COULD BE MORE ROMANTIC FOR A GIRL THAN A MASKED SWEETHEART?
GOOD NIGHT, SLEEP TIGHT--
SEE YOU IN THE MORNING--
THAT MASK-- MAYBE HE'S HIDING SOMETHING! WONDER WHAT HE REALLY LOOKS LIKE? HAVE TO SEE!
DIANA'S MOTHER--
CAN'T TURN ON THE LIGHTS. I'LL USE THIS OLD LAMP—
FALK & BARRY 4/6

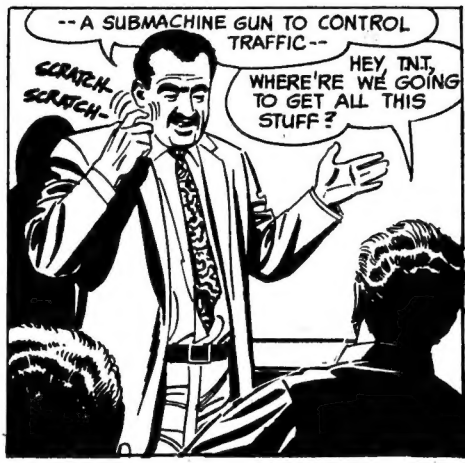
--HASN'T LEARNED--
WONDERED FOR YEARS WHAT HE REALLY LOOKS LIKE--HE MUST TAKE OFF HIS MASK WHEN HE SLEEPS--I'LL HAVE A QUICK PEEK--
--THAT CURIOSITY--
ASLEEP--WITH THE MASK--
--KILLED THE CAT--!
I CAN LIFT IT--GENTLY--
GRRR--
?!
STAY, DEVIL!
OH!
WHAT WAS THAT, UNCLE DAVE?
YOUR MOTHER--THERE!
LUCKY I WOKE UP, MRS. PALMER. IF DEVIL LEAPED, HE MIGHT HAVE INJURED YOU!
??
MAMA, YOU TRIED TO SEE HIS FACE--TAKE OFF THE MASK? REALLY?
HE TOLD US, ONLY HIS WIFE CAN SEE HIS FACE. YOU'RE A WIDOW — GETTING IDEAS, LILY?
STOP THAT SILLY TALK!
--I'M A FOOLISH OLD WOMAN, AND I ALMOST BURNED DOWN THE HOUSE AS WELL! PARDON ME--AND GOOD NIGHT!
MEANWHILE--THE 'CRIME SCHOOL'--
WE'VE BEEN TEETHING YOU BOYS ON LITTLE STUFF. READY FOR A BIG JOB NOW?
GEE, T.N.T.—WHAT?!
GOT IT?
GOT IT, T.N.T.!
CLICK!

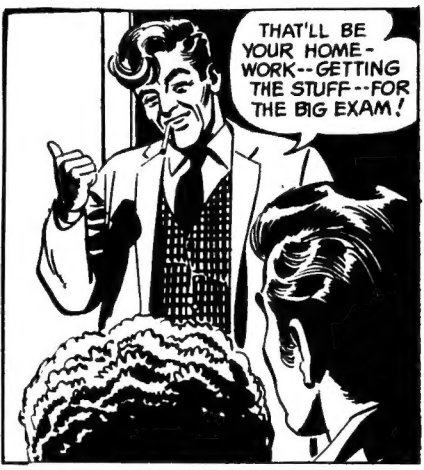
I WANT BLOW-UPS, ABOUT THIS BIG.
THAT IS A BLOW-UP!

THE CRIME SCHOOL!
HERE SHE IS, KIDS. YOUR FIRST BIG-TIME JOB! BIG-- AND TOUGH! ARMORED PAY-ROLL TRUCK! ARMED GUARDS INSIDE!
WOW! HOW'RE WE GOING TO DO THAT, T.N.T.?
WITH A CAN-OPENER, STUPID!

ITCHY, OUR WEAPONS EXPERT, WILL TELL US WHAT WE NEED TO CRACK THIS JOB.
WELL, I FIGURE A GRENADE-THROWER TO STOP HER--
SCRATCH-SCRATCH-

--BULLETPROOF VESTS, GAS GRENADES TO CRACK INSIDE--
!!!
SCRATCH-SCRATCH-

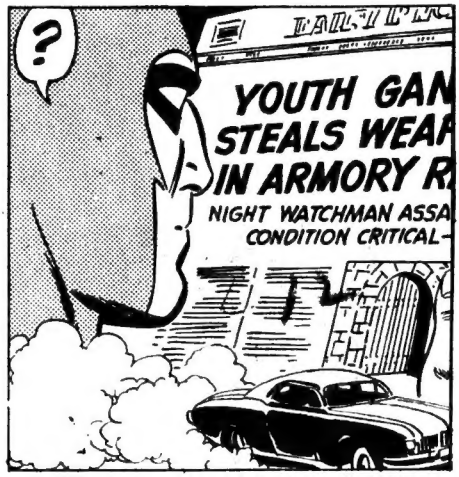

--A SUBMACHINE GUN TO CONTROL TRAFFIC--
SCRATCH-SCRATCH-
HEY, T.N.T. WHERE'RE WE GOING TO GET ALL THIS STUFF?


THAT'LL BE YOUR HOME-WORK--GETTING THE STUFF--FOR THE BIG EXAM!

DRILL HERE TONIGHT?
NAW, ON FRIDAY.

OH--
UH--
OUR MISTAKE-

WANT TO COME BACK FRIDAY AND DRILL?
SOUNDS LIKE A GAS!
GAS MASKS


?
YOUTH GAN
STEALS WEAP
IN ARMORY R
NIGHT WATCHMAN ASSA
CONDITION CRITICAL-

WHY SHOULD THAT MINOR ITEM WORRY YOU?
SOMETHING SINISTER'S GOING ON IN THIS TOWN
DAILY EXPRESS
YOUTH GANG RAIDS ARMORY

NO, YOU DON'T! WE'VE AN EXCELLENT POLICE FORCE- YOU'RE ON VACATION!

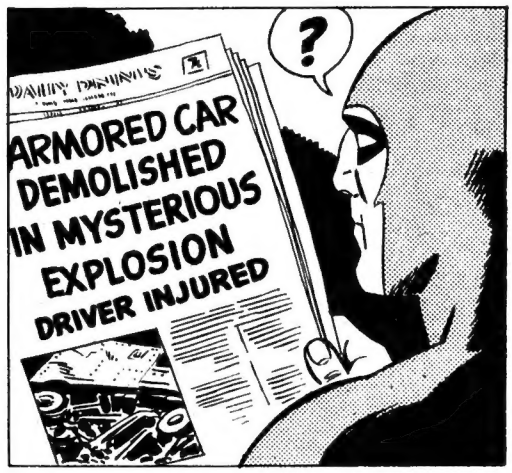
BULLETPROOF VESTS? DO THEY WORK? --UH!
DO THEY?

WE'RE GOING TO GIVE YOU PRACTICE USING THIS HARDWARE.
YEAH-
FALK & BARRY 4/13

YOU NEED PRACTICE WITH THIS GRENADE-LAUNCHER ON A MOVING OBJECT. HERE COMES ONE-- READY--
!
SCRATCH! SCRATCH!

TAKE A TRUCK'S-LENGTH LEAD ON IT— THEN -- SHOOT!

GOT IT!
RUN!


?
DAILY DISPATCH
ARMORED CAR DEMOLISHED IN MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION
DRIVER INJURED

CHOKE- GASP--
415

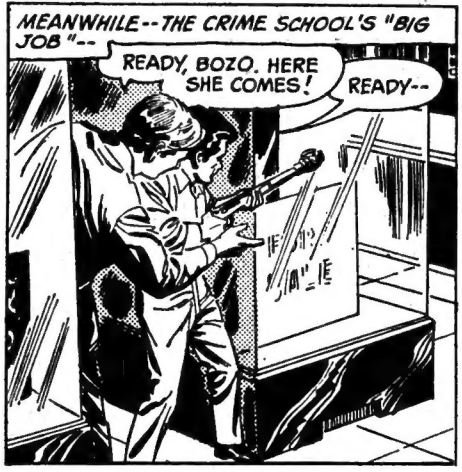
SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T GET THE MASK ON RIGHT? LUCKY IT WAS ONLY SMOKE!
GASP- CHOKE-

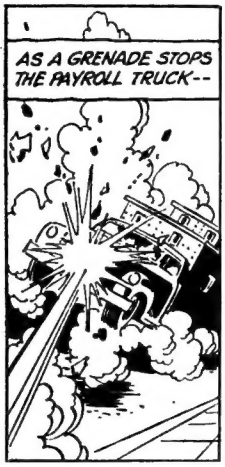
OKAY, KIDS. YOU'VE BEEN TRAINED AND BRIEFED. HERE'S THE JOB. 100 GRAND IN IT. GO GET IT!

NOW WE'RE REALLY COOKING, ITCHY.
YEAH, T.N.T.
SCRATCH- SCRATCH-

WHAT MADE YOU THINK THERE'S AN UNUSUAL CRIME RING IN TOWN?
INSTINCT-- SOME SORT OF SIXTH SENSE-- PERHAPS I WAS WRONG-

ANYHOW, ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO RETURN TO BENGALI.
NOT YET--!
WE'LL MISS YOU--
FALK & BARRY 4/17

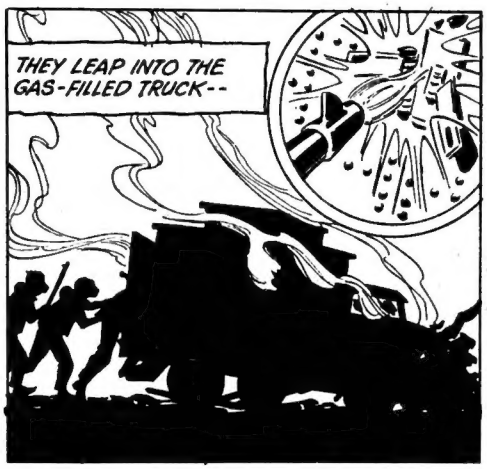

MEANWHILE--THE CRIME SCHOOL'S "BIG JOB"--
READY, BOZO. HERE SHE COMES!
READY--

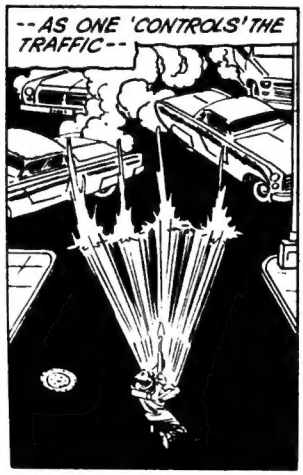

AS A GRENADE STOPS THE PAYROLL TRUCK--

MATT-- PHIL--?

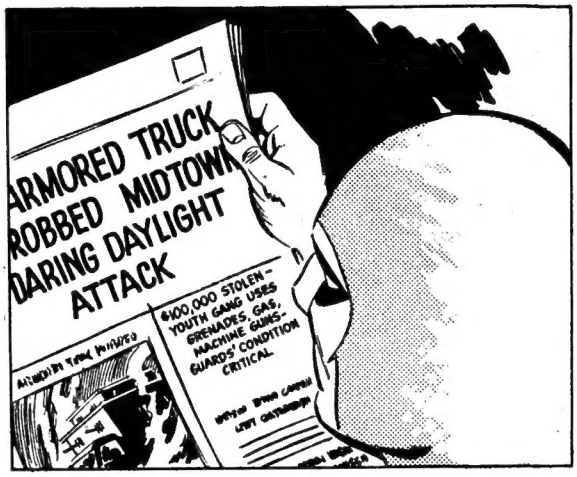
UH--HIT HIM-- DIDN'T STOP HIM-- BULLET-PROOF VEST?

GAS MASKS-- GRENADES-- THESE CROOKS ARE LIKE AN ARMY--UH-- GAS--!


THEY LEAP INTO THE GAS-FILLED TRUCK--


--AS ONE 'CONTROLS' THE TRAFFIC--

WAIT FOR ME, YOU--*@#m!!
GET A MOVE ON! WE'RE TAKING OFF!


ARMORED TRUCK ROBBED MIDTOWN DARING DAYLIGHT ATTACK
$100,000 STOLEN-- YOUTH GANG USES GRENADES, GAS, MACHINE GUNS-- GUARDS' CONDITION CRITICAL

HOW ABOUT THIS! THESE KIDS WERE GREAT!
YEAH? JUST FOLLOWED ORDERS!
SCRATCH-SCRATCH!
ARMORED TRUCK ROBBED MIDTOWN DARING DAYLIGHT ATTACK

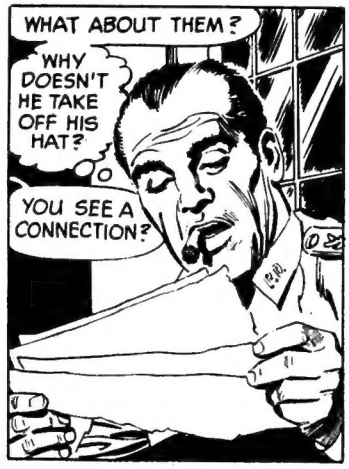
THE LOOT! 100 GRAND! BEAUTIFUL!
WOW! HOW MUCH DO WE GET?

YOU'RE STAYING?
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT THE POLICE THINK OF THIS. DAVE, YOU KNOW THE CHIEF.

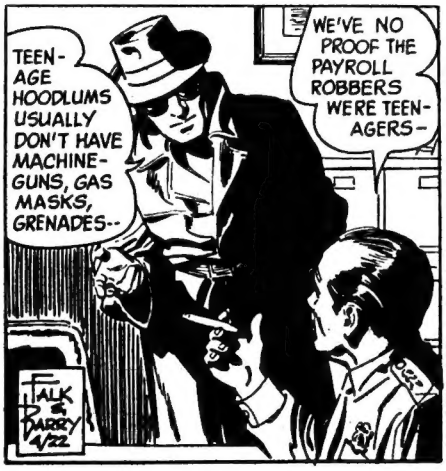
PAT, WOULD YOU SEE A FRIEND OF MINE – NAME'S –ER– MR. WALKER.*
ANY FRIEND OF DAVE PALMER'S –
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS

DAVE PALMER'S FRIEND, MR. WALKER?* PLEASE SIT DOWN. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
A FEW QUESTIONS, CHIEF –
*FOR THE "GHOST WHO WALKS."

POLICE BAFFLED BY
FINAL
YOUTH GANG IN ARMORY RAI
WATCHMAN INJURED
MYSTERIOUS


WHAT ABOUT THEM?
WHY DOESN'T HE TAKE OFF HIS HAT?
YOU SEE A CONNECTION?

ARE YOU BRINGING ME INFORMATION, OR A THEORY?
LET'S CALL IT A HUNCH, CHIEF.


TEEN-AGE HOODLUMS USUALLY DON'T HAVE MACHINE-GUNS, GAS MASKS, GRENADES--
WE'VE NO PROOF THE PAYROLL ROBBERS WERE TEEN-AGERS –
FALK & BARRY 1/22

THEY WORE GAS MASKS -- NO ONE SAW THEIR FACES -- YOU'VE A THEORY THERE'S A MASTER-MIND -- A "FAGIN", DIRECTING KIDS --?

MR. –ER– WALKER -- I'M A POLICE CHIEF, NOT A MYSTERY-STORY WRITER. IF YOU HAVE EVIDENCE, WE'RE HAPPY TO --

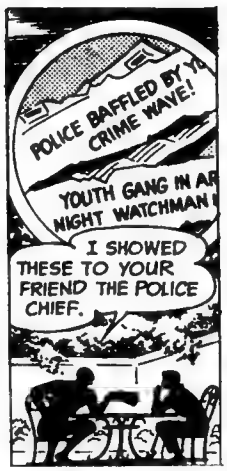
"PHANTOM MOVES LIKE THE WIND -- ON CAT'S FEET" -- OLD JUNGLE SAYING.
--CONSIDER -- UH! GONE!
DIDN'T HEAR HIM GO --

THAT MAN WITH THE SUNGLASSES-- DID YOU SEE HIM LEAVE, SERGEANT?
NO, SIR.

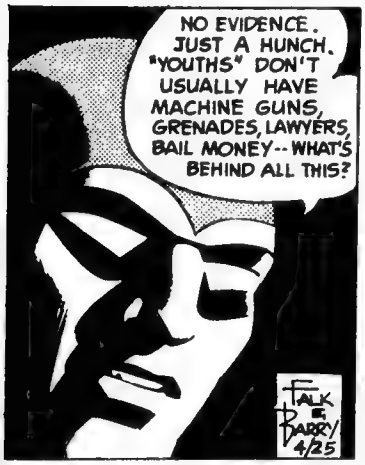
I LOOKED AWAY FOR A SECOND-- WHEN I LOOKED UP, HE WAS GONE--
DAVE, WHO'S THAT FRIEND OF YOURS-- ER- MR. WALKER?

SHALL I TELL HIM HE'S RULER OF THE JUNGLE, CALLED "PHANTOM"-- "GHOST WHO WALKS"- "MAN-WHO-CANNOT-DIE?"

JUST A FRIEND FROM OUT OF TOWN. WHY?
UH-- JUST WONDERED--
FALK & BARRY 4/24


POLICE BAFFLED BY YO CRIME WAVE!
YOUTH GANG IN AR NIGHT WATCHMAN
I SHOWED THESE TO YOUR FRIEND THE POLICE CHIEF.

HE SAW NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CRIMES, DAVE.
BUT YOU DO?
RED
POLICE BAFFLED BY YOUTH CRIME WAVE!


NO EVIDENCE. JUST A HUNCH. "YOUTHS" DON'T USUALLY HAVE MACHINE GUNS, GRENADES, LAWYERS, BAIL MONEY-- WHAT'S BEHIND ALL THIS?
FALK & BARRY 4/25

FIRST, SMALL THEFTS, MUGGINGS. THEN PAYROLL TRUCKS. WHAT'S NEXT? I INTEND TO FIND OUT!

PAYDAY, KIDS! GO OUT AND HOWL!
YEAH!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
MATTER? A HUNDRED! IS THAT ALL WE GET?

WE TOOK A HUNDRED GRAND FROM THAT PAYROLL TRUCK!
WE DID ALL THE WORK!
YOU WANT MORE, HUH?
ARE YOU KIDDING US, T.N.T.?

YOU FIGURE A HUNDRED ISN'T ENOUGH, YOU SHOULD GET MORE, BOZO?
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
FALK & DARRY 4/27

THERE'S ONE LESSON I FORGOT TO GIVE YOU BOYS.
SPIKE. GIVE HIM MORE!

!!!
WATCH, CLASS. AND REMEMBER THIS LESSON!

ANYBODY ELSE GOT ANY KICKS ABOUT THAT PAY?

GET HIM PATCHED UP. CALL OUR DOC.

FROM NOW ON, THE JOBS GET BIGGER. YOUR PAY ALSO GETS BIGGER. BUT I DECIDE. NOT YOU. ANY QUESTIONS?

OKAY, KIDS. GO OUT. HAVE FUN. CLASS AT NINE TOMORROW!

WHERE DO YOU LOOK FOR A SECRET CRIME GANG?
AROUND. WITH NO CLUES, YOU START ASKING QUESTIONS--

--QUESTIONS TRAVEL. THEN THEY COME LOOKING FOR YOU.
HMM, WITH MACHINE GUNS AND GRENADES?!

TAKE CARE OF DEVIL FOR A WHILE?
LOVE TO.

DID HE SAY WHERE HE'S GOING, UNCLE DAVE?
AROUND-- TO ASK QUESTIONS.

A FOGGY NIGHT--
YOU LIVE AROUND HERE?
NO.
GOT BUSINESS HERE?
JUST OUT FOR A STROLL. WHY?
FALK & BARRY 5/1
NO PLACE FOR A STROLL-- LOADED WITH MUGGERS-- THUGS-- IT'S MY BEAT, BUT I CAN'T BE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE...
SOUNDS JUST RIGHT, THANKS.
?
AFTER AN HOUR'S WALK IN THE FOG--
COP EXAGGERATED-- PEACEFUL STREET-- OOPS—NO--
GOT A MATCH?
NO.
MUGGING COMING UP--?
DON'T YELL--AND YOU WON'T GET HURT--
ALL WE WANT IS YOUR MONEY--
THE PHANTOM MOVES!
ALL I WANT IS TO TALK TO YOU!
!!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT PAYROLL-TRUCK ROBBERY?
NOTHING!
HONEST!
YOU WOULDN'T-- SMALL FRY. WHERE DO THE HOODS HANG OUT?
LOTS OF PLACES.
NAME ONE!
UH-- GREASY'S!
THANKS.
?!!
FALK & BARRY 5/3

GREASY'S
THE OWNER SHOULD THINK OF A BETTER NAME--

A STRANGER-- SUDDEN SILENCE--
BUT IT FITS.

COLD EYES WATCH HIM--
NOT AN HONEST MAN IN THE PLACE.

WHAT DO YOU WANT, MISTER?
INFORMATION-- THAT PAYROLL-TRUCK JOB...
!!

WHAT--WAS THAT?
THAT PAYROLL-TRUCK JOB, GREASY. I'D LIKE TO SEE THE BOYS.

I DIDN'T THINK I HEARD RIGHT. YOU WANT THEIR PHONE NUMBER, MAYBE?
IF YOU HAVE IT--

FUZZ!
A COPPER!
NAW, NO COPPER'S THAT DUMB! THIS IS A LOUSY STOOLIE!*
MAN, YOU ASKED FOR IT!
*STOOL-PIGEON

GET OUT FAST, MAN! WE DON'T LIKE COPPERS OR STOOLIES.
I'M NOT A COP OR A STOOL-PIGEON--
FALK & BARRY 5/6

A LOUSY STOOLIE LIKE YOU GOT ME TEN YEARS AT SING-SING!

I'M GOING TO CARVE YOU UP!
GO AHEAD, CRAZY! TAKE CARE OF HIM! IF YOU CAN'T, I WILL.

A NIGHT IN "GREASY'S BAR—
CARVE THE STOOLIE, CRAZY!
SOCK HIM, GREASY!

THE PHANTOM MOVES--FIRST "CRAZY"—
OW!

—THEN "GREASY"
!

THE "STRANGER" HURLS THE BIG BARTENDER INTO THE AIR--LIKE A FEATHER--

WE DON'T NEED YOU CHEAP GUNMEN IN HERE.
?!

"PHANTOM'S ROUGH ON ROUGHNECK'S"-OLD JUNGLE SAYING.
NOW--IF ANYONE KNOWS THAT PAYROLL-TRUCK GANG—I WANT TO SEE THEM.
FALK & BARRY

WHILE I'M WAITING, BRING ME A DRINK. MILK.
UH--YES --SIR--

!
?

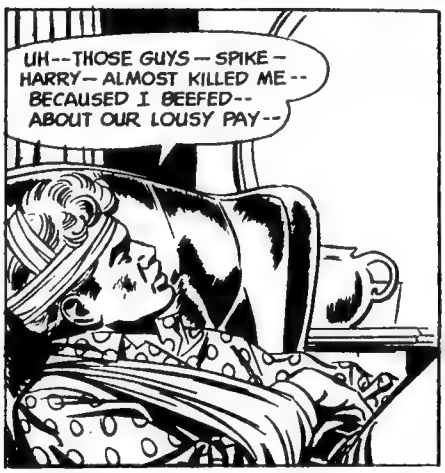
!
?

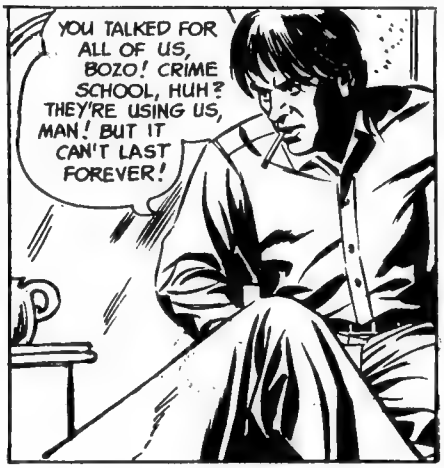
STRONGARM GUY AT GREASY'S, ASKING QUESTIONS, ITCHY.
YEAH?
SCRA SCRA

GUY AT GREASY'S, ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT US, T.N.T.
WHO WOULD IT BE, T.N.T.?
A STOOLIE, A COPPER, OR INSURANCE GUY. WE PLAY IT SMART. WE JUST WATCH HIM. WE'VE GOT THIS BIG JOB COMING UP--
SCRATCH SCRATCH

-GUY WITH SUNGLASSES AT GREASY'S. WATCH HIM. DON'T TALK. GOT IT, SPEEDY?
YEAH, T.N.T.

--NO DOUBLE-CROSS, KID, OR YOU'LL GET WHAT YOUR BIG-MOUTH BUDDY BOZO GOT!
!


UH--THOSE GUYS — SPIKE — HARRY — ALMOST KILLED ME -- BECAUSED I BEEFED-- ABOUT OUR LOUSY PAY--


YOU TALKED FOR ALL OF US, BOZO! CRIME SCHOOL, HUH? THEY'RE USING US, MAN! BUT IT CAN'T LAST FOREVER!

SPEEDY, DON'T CROSS THEM. THEY'RE TOUGH! THEY'LL KILL YOU!
YEAH-- UNLESS THEY RUN INTO SOMEONE TOUGHER--

THE GUY WITH SUNGLASSES --I'M SUPPOSED TO WATCH-- HIM!

I'D LIKE TO TALK TO THAT GUY, BUT THE GANG'D KILL ME--HE'S GOING!
I'LL BE BACK.
SURE--

SUPPOSED TO FOLLOW HIM— WHERE DID HE GO?

THIS WAY—? UH!

LOOKING FOR ME?
?!

GREASY, WHERE'S THAT STRANGER ASKING QUESTIONS?
HE TOOK OFF, SPIKE.
TALK & BARRY 5/15

WAS ONE OF OUR KIDS HERE?
YEAH - SPEEDY. HE TAILED THE STRANGER - THAT WAY.

T.N.T. SAID - SEND A GUY TO WATCH SOMEBODY - SEND SOMEBODY ELSE TO WATCH THE GUY.

MEANWHILE SPEEDY AND THE STRANGER--
YOU FOLLOWING ME?
ME (GULP)?!

SPEEDY CONSIDERS HIMSELF A TOUGH GUY--
FOLLOW YOU? I NEVER SAW YOU BEFORE-

-BUT HE'S HELPLESS AGAINST THE PHANTOM!
NO? YOU SAW ME AT "GREASY'S."
!

YOU WERE THE GUY WITH SUN-GLASSES? THEY FIGURED YOU WERE A COP.
BUT YOU'RE MASKED! ARE YOU A HOOD?
I'LL ASK THE QUESTIONS. WHO ARE "THEY"?

I CAN'T SAY WHO SENT ME TO FOLLOW YOU.
NATURALLY NOT - CODE OF THE UNDERWORLD, EH?

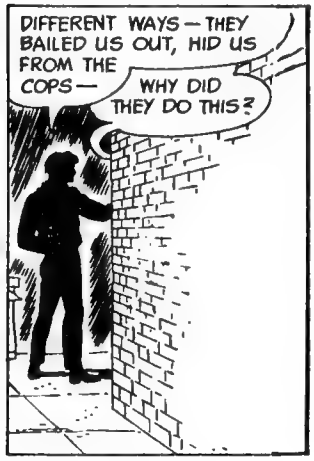
DON'T MAKE ME HURT YOU, SON. YOU WERE BIG ENOUGH TO MACHINE-GUN AN UNARMED GUARD.

I DIDN'T. IT WAS HERBIE!
OK - YOU WERE PART OF IT - KEEP TALKING!

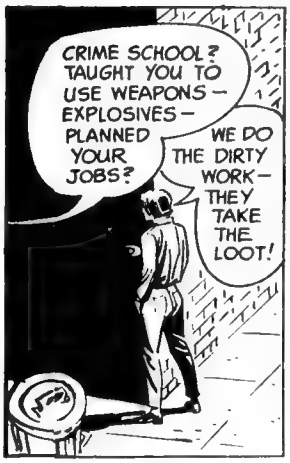
WHERE DID THAT KID SPEEDY GO?— THERE HE IS! TALKING TO SOMEBODY-?

WE WERE JUST A KID GANG — A LITTLE MUGGING — ROLLING DRUNKS — ZIP GUNS-
FUN-LOVING BOYS.

THEN T.N.T.— ITCHY — SPIKE — AND A CROWD OF EX-CONS GOT HOLD OF US.
?
HOW?

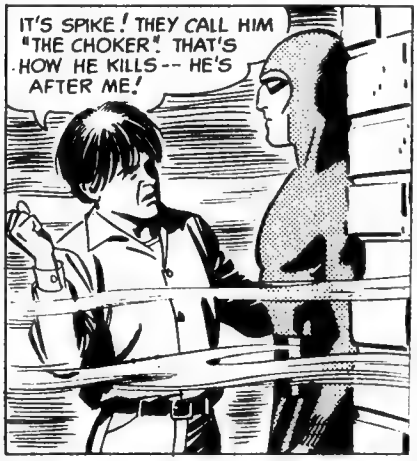

DIFFERENT WAYS — THEY BAILED US OUT, HID US FROM THE COPS —
WHY DID THEY DO THIS?

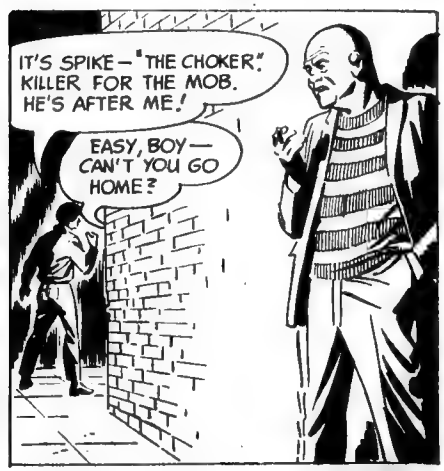
THE CRIME SCHOOL.
CAN'T SEE WHO SPEEDY'S WITH.
?
THIS IS SPIKE — LET ME TALK TO T.N.T.


CRIME SCHOOL? TAUGHT YOU TO USE WEAPONS — EXPLOSIVES — PLANNED YOUR JOBS?
WE DO THE DIRTY WORK — THEY TAKE THE LOOT!

T.N.T. SAYS BIG JOB'S COMING UP! — IF THEY KNOW I'VE TALKED THEY'LL KILL ME!
OBVIOUSLY — DON'T TELL THEM. GO AND — WAIT!

THAT MAN ACROSS THE STREET — BEHIND THE PHONE BOOTH. KNOW HIM?
!


IT'S SPIKE! THEY CALL HIM "THE CHOKER". THAT'S HOW HE KILLS -- HE'S AFTER ME!


IT'S SPIKE — "THE CHOKER". KILLER FOR THE MOB. HE'S AFTER ME!
EASY, BOY — CAN'T YOU GO HOME?

THEY'D ONLY COME AND GET ME!
OK — START WALKING.

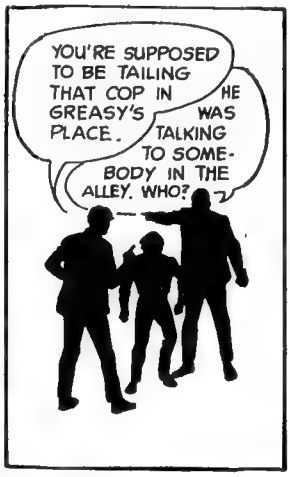
WAIT — WHO ARE YOU — ? WHERE — HE'S GONE!

HEY, YOU—
!

HEY— SPEEDY!
THAT'S SPIKE — THE KILLER! I'LL PRETEND I DON'T HEAR HIM.
FALK & BARRY 5/22

GOING SOMEPLACE, SPEEDY?
--T.N.T.!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR SPIKE CALLING YOU?
NO, I DIDN'T— UH—


YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE TAILING THAT COP IN GREASY'S PLACE.
HE WAS TALKING TO SOMEBODY IN THE ALLEY. WHO?

NOBODY— JUST A GUY WHO WANTED A MATCH— UH—
YOU LYING !!

YOU FOLLOWED THAT COP— AND TALKED!
NO!

TAKE HIM, SPIKE, AND FINISH HIM — FAST!

T.N.T. SAID TO FINISH YOU! I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE, KID. WHO WERE YOU TALKING TO?
I DON'T KNOW, SPIKE— HONEST!

OK, KID— YOU'VE HAD IT!
URRK-!

?!

WHERE IS THE CRIME SCHOOL?
UH-UH-
UP THE STREET-NUMBER 12-!

THEY'LL THINK YOU'RE DEAD. GO HOME — HIDE!
UH-URRK!

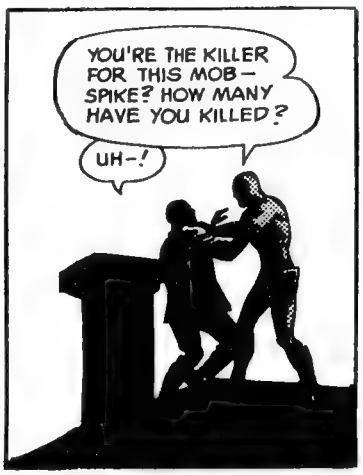
!

YOU WON'T SEE YOUR PAL SPEEDY ANY MORE. HE TALKED! YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO TALKERS!
?
?

ENOUGH SAID! BIG JOB TOMORROW. TOO BIG FOR YOU KIDS ALONE. ITCHY AND SPIKE'LL GO ALONG!
SCRATCH SCRATCH

I'LL GIVE YOU THE PLANS WHEN SPIKE GETS BACK.
WHAT'S KEEPING SPIKE?

UH-UH-
TALK & BARRY 5/26
SPIKE IS ON HIS WAY!


YOU'RE THE KILLER FOR THIS MOB — SPIKE? HOW MANY HAVE YOU KILLED?
UH-!

"PHANTOM IS ROUGH ON ROUGHNECKS" — OLD JUNGLE SAYING.
WHAT'S THE BIG JOB TOMORROW, SPIKE? TALK!
NO MORE — UH—
TALK & BARRY 5/27

T.N.T. — WHERE IS SPIKE?
DOWN THE STREET — DOING A JOB — SHOULD BE FINISHED BY NOW!

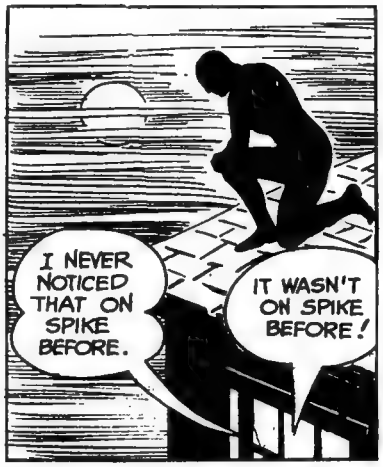
HE SHOULD BE BACK BY NOW! IF HE'S NOT HERE IN FIVE MINUTES WE'LL GO OUT AND LOOK FOR HIM!

THE CRIME SCHOOL--
SPIKE SHOULD BE BACK BY NOW. WE NEED HIM FOR THE BRIEFING. IF HE'S NOT HERE IN ANOTHER MINUTE, WE'LL—
WHO'S THAT?
SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
KNOCK! KNOCK!

SPIKE! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN—UH?

THE CRIME SCHOOL—
WHAT HAPPENED TO SPIKE?
IS HE DEAD?
NO, OUT COLD!
WHAT'S THAT ON HIS JAW?

LOOKS LIKE A DEATH'S HEAD—OR A SKULL MARK!


I NEVER NOTICED THAT ON SPIKE BEFORE.
IT WASN'T ON SPIKE BEFORE!

SPIKE WAS OUT COLD WHEN YOU OPENED THE DOOR!
YEAH—HE WAS PROPPED UP AGAINST THE DOOR-

--BUT SOMEBODY KNOCKED ON THAT DOOR. IT WASN'T SPIKE-!
?!

IT'S DARK OUT THERE, ITCHY—BRING A FLASHLIGHT-

T.N.T.—LOOK!
!
FALK & BARRY 5/31

SEE ANYBODY?
NOBODY! GET BACK INTO THAT ROOM, YOU KIDS!

T.N.T.— THINK THAT KID SPEEDY DID ALL THIS?
NAW! WE'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN! SPIKE FINISHED HIM!

SPIKE ALWAYS WAS LOOKING FOR A FIGHT. HE RAN INTO SOMEBODY HE COULDN'T HANDLE -- JUST SHOWS YOU.

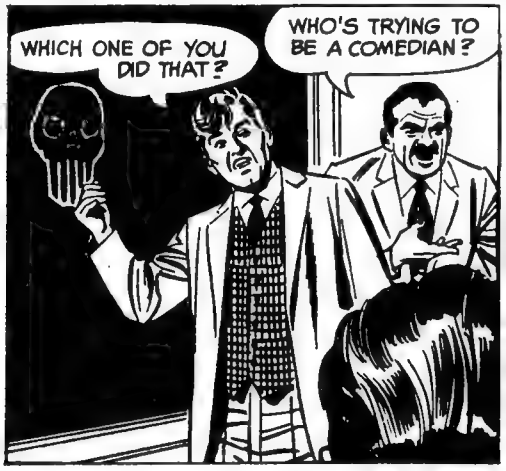
--NO MATTER HOW TOUGH YOU ARE— THERE'S ALWAYS ONE TOUGHER!
WHO PUT THAT SKULL MARK ON HIS JAW?
TALK BY BARRY 6/1

THAT SKULL MARK ON HIS JAW?
FORGET IT! GO TO YOUR ROOMS— I'VE GOT THINKING TO DO!

MAN— HE'S REALLY OUT!
WE'LL GO WITHOUT HIM! ITCHY— THE JOB TOMORROW IS THE BIG ONE! THREE MILLION CASH!

AFTER THE JOB— WE DITCH THE KIDS AND THE CRIME SCHOOL— AND VAMOOSE!
THREE MILLION! WOW!

CALL THE KIDS FOR THE BRIEFING — HEY!


WHICH ONE OF YOU DID THAT?
WHO'S TRYING TO BE A COMEDIAN?

THE CRIME SCHOOL --
NOT ME— NOT ME—
NOT US— HONEST, T.N.T.—

I HAVEN'T TIME TO FIND THE JOKER NOW.
SOME OF YOU KIDS CARRY SPIKE TO THE NEXT ROOM --

NOW THE BRIEFING—RUB THAT BLASTED MARK OFF THE BLACKBOARD! THIS'LL BE OUR BIGGEST JOB.
YOUR LAST ONE.

THE BANK TRUCK— IT'LL TRANSFER CASH FROM ONE BRANCH TO ANOTHER—
3 MILLION —WOW!
HOW MUCH CASH, T.N.T.?
TALK & BARRY 6/5

PLENTY! ENOUGH TO MAKE EVERYBODY RICH! OK, BOYS, SHOVE OFF. GET READY FOR THE BIG PUSH!

ENOUGH TO MAKE US RICH — HUH, T.N.T.? ALL THEY GET IS NOTHING —RIGHT?
NOT SO LOUD, FOOL—

--SOMEBODY MIGHT HEAR YOU—
SOMEBODY HAS!

3 MILLION IN CASH! WHERE WILL WE GO, T.N.T.?
MAYBE SOUTH AMERICA--

ALONE—YOU POOR SAP. I'M NOT SPLITTING WITH ANYBODY!
SOUTH AMERICA —YEAH— BOSSA NOVA —YEAH!

DON'T BE AFRAID—EXCUSE ME—MAY I USE YOUR TELEPHONE?

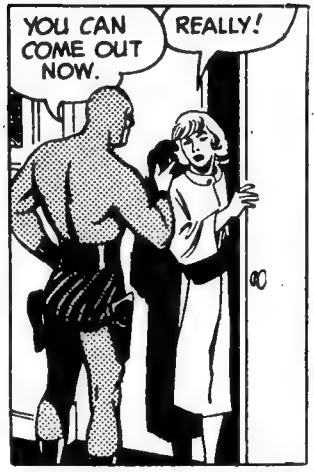
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU, MISS. I NEED PRIVACY— PLEASE STEP IN HERE FOR A MOMENT—

REALLY— IN MY OWN APARTMENT!
SORRY— THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!

BLAST—WHO'D RING ME AT THIS HOUR OF THE NIGHT?
RING RING—

OH—YOU! I WONDERED WHAT HAD HAPPENED—
DAVE, THIS IS IMPORTANT! CALL YOUR FRIEND THE POLICE CHIEF—TELL HIM THIS—

I'VE GOT IT ALL! ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
POSITIVE. TELL THE CHIEF – HE'LL BELIEVE YOU!

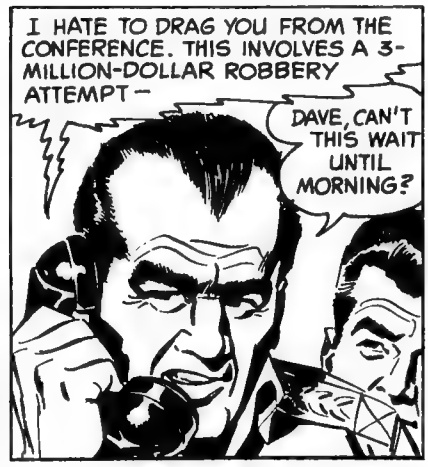

YOU CAN COME OUT NOW.
REALLY!

THANKS – SORRY TO BOTHER YOU –
YOU NEEDN'T CALL THE POLICE. I'LL BE GONE – BESIDES, I PUT IN A CALL TO THE CHIEF –

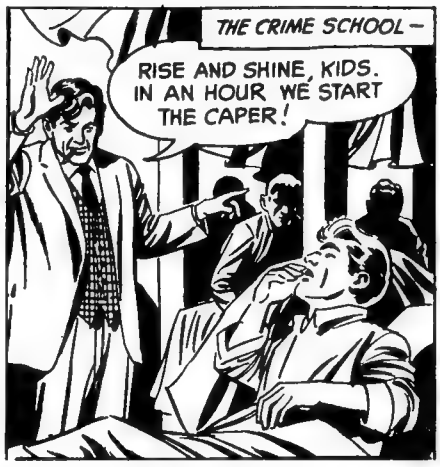
GONE! OF ALL THE NERVE – I WONDER WHO HE WAS – ?
MY – HE WAS – INTERESTING!
TALK & PARRY 6/8

POLICE CHIEF, PLEASE – HE'S IN CONFERENCE? THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT –
THIS IS DAVE PALMER – FORMER POLICE COMMISSIONER – I MUST SPEAK TO HIM.

CHIEF – THIS IS DAVE PALMER – SORRY TO INTERRUPT –
I DON'T MIND, DAVE – WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

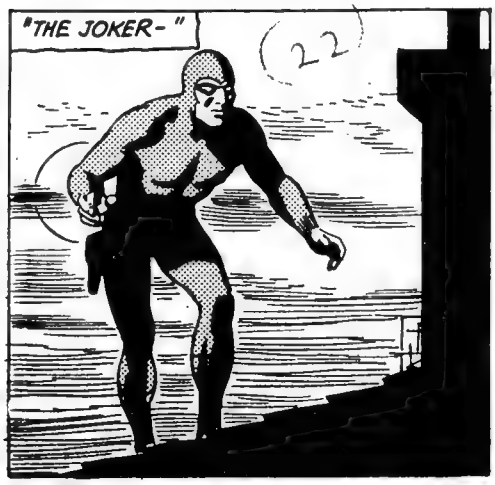

I HATE TO DRAG YOU FROM THE CONFERENCE. THIS INVOLVES A 3-MILLION-DOLLAR ROBBERY ATTEMPT –
DAVE, CAN'T THIS WAIT UNTIL MORNING?

NO, IT CAN'T, CHIEF. PICK ME UP AT MY HOUSE – BUT YOU CAN FINISH THAT HAND FIRST!
!


THE CRIME SCHOOL –
RISE AND SHINE, KIDS. IN AN HOUR WE START THE CAPER!

T.N.T. – HOW'RE WE GONNA DITCH THE KIDS AFTER WE GET THE LOOT?
SHH – NOT SO LOUD! TWO CARS – YOU AND ME IN ONE – BLAST –

THAT BLASTED SKULL MARK – I TOLD THEM TO RUB IT OFF – !
AW – COOL IT, T.N.T. IT'S NOTHING – JUST SOME JOKER –


"THE JOKER – "
22

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR 'CONFERENCE', CHIEF.
YES. HARUMPH— DAVE PALMER—ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS ROBBERY ATTEMPT?

I'VE ALERTED THREE RIOT SQUADS. IF THIS IS A PHONY—I'LL LOOK STUPID.
BANK
IF IT IS—WE'LL LOOK STUPID TOGETHER, CHIEF.

WE THINK A HOLDUP IS PLANNED FOR THIS TRUCK.
SO I UNDERSTAND, CHIEF. SUPPOSED TO CARRY 3 MILLION IN CASH.

NOW—THE TRUCK WON'T GO.
AH—BUT IT WILL GO—EMPTY.

BUT THE TRUCK'S GOING OUT EMPTY—NO CASH IN IT.
CHIEF, YOU TELL ME THERE'LL BE A ROBBERY ATTEMPT WITH MACHINE GUNS, GAS AND GRENADES!
I DON'T WANT MY DRIVERS SHOT UP--
RIGHT!

YOUR DRIVERS WON'T GO. WE'RE SUPPLYING THE DRIVER—RIGHT, DAVE?
WHO?
HE'S ON HIS WAY. (I HOPE.)

BANK

YOU'RE SUPPLYING OFFICERS TO DRIVE THE BANK TRUCK, CHIEF?
NOT MY MEN—
WE'LL SUPPLY THE DRIVER—

WHOEVER HE IS—HE IS RISKING HIS LIFE IN THIS DEAL.
WHERE IS HE?
ON HIS WAY. TURN OUT THE LIGHTS NOW.

WHY?
IT'S THE ARRANGEMENT. THE DRIVER DOESN'T WISH TO BE SEEN. NOW!
?

SUDDENLY IN THE DARKNESS—THE TRUCK DOOR OPENS.
ON SCHEDULE, DAVE.
??
!
CLICK!!
FALK & BARRY 6/14

IN THE DARKNESS — A DEEP COMMANDING VOICE —
DAVE, ARE THE PLANS MADE?
YES. THREE RIOT SQUADS WAITING.
?!
THE TRUCK DOOR SLAMS SHUT.
SLAM!
?
A SUDDEN ENGINE ROAR — AND THE TRUCK IS GONE.
WHO WAS THAT?
THE DRIVER.
THE CRIME SCHOOL —
GET MOVING — ON THE DOUBLE! WE'VE GOT 20 MINUTES!
3 MILLION! WOW, I CAN HARDLY WAIT!
DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS, ITCHY — AND STOP THAT SCRATCHING!
SCRATCH-SCRATCH-
WAITING AND READY — THE RIOT SQUAD!
MOVING TOWARD THEM — THE MYSTERIOUS DRIVER!
HERE COMES THE BANK TRUCK — RIGHT ON THE DOT! READY, ITCHY!
YEAH!
SCRATCH-SCRATCH-
HERE IT COMES! GAS MASKS, GRENADES, GUNS READY!
!!
UNSEEN BY THE "CRIME SCHOOL" — AND ALSO READY!
THERE THEY ARE — WAITING!
FALK & BARRY 6/17

THE ARMORED BANK TRUCK APPROACHES — THE MACHINE GUNS OF THE "CRIME SCHOOL" OPEN UP!
GO!
!
!
AT THIS MOMENT — THE HIDDEN COPS OPEN FIRE!
COPS, T.N.T.!
A DOUBLE-CROSS — LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
AS THE POLICE OPEN A DEADLY CROSSFIRE —
DON'T SHOOT, I GIVE UP!
!!
T.N.T.— ITCHY— WAIT—
T.N.T.— TAKE ME ALONG!
GET LOST!
NO ONE IS AFTER US! STEP ON IT!
GOOD!
THEY'RE WRONG — SOMEONE IS!
THOSE ARE THE TWO I WANT!
T.N.T.— THAT BLASTED BANK TRUCK IS AFTER US!
I KNOW — I'LL LOSE IT!
IS IT STILL AFTER US, ITCHY?
NO, YOU LOST IT! GOOD BOY, T.N.T.!
3 MILLION LOST! WHO COULD HAVE SQUEALED? I THOUGHT I FIGURED IT ALL OUT!
T.N.T.— LOOK OUT!
SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
CRASH!
FALK & BARRY 6/21

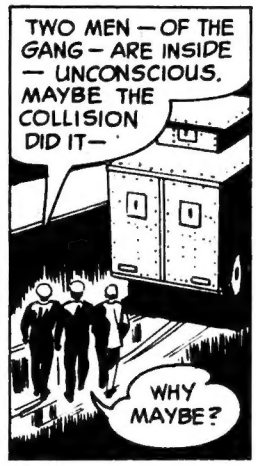
THE PHANTOM CRASHES INTO THE HOODS—
WHAT HAPPENED-?
I DUNNO—

"THE SUDDEN SIGHT OF THE PHANTOM CAN FREEZE A MAN'S BLOOD"— OLD JUNGLE SAYING.
T.N.T.- ITCHY! YOU TURNED THOSE KIDS INTO CRIMINALS!
?!

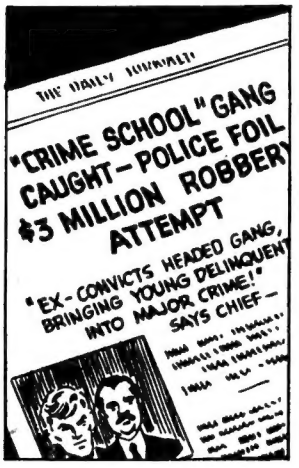
THAT MARK— THAT MARK— THAT'S THE ONE!

AS THEY REACH FOR THEIR GUNS — THE PHANTOM'S FIST CRASHES THEM INTO DREAMLAND!

THE END OF THE "BANK TRUCK CAPER."
MACHINE GUNS, GAS MASKS, GRENADES— THIS GANG WAS OUTFITTED LIKE AN ARMY, DAVE!
ONE OF THE CARS GOT AWAY— WHERE IS THE TRUCK?
ON THE NEXT STREET, SIR.


TWO MEN — OF THE GANG — ARE INSIDE — UNCONSCIOUS. MAYBE THE COLLISION DID IT—
WHY MAYBE?

THOSE MARKS ON THEIR JAWS, SIR?
DAVE, WHO DROVE THAT TRUCK?
AS I SAID, CHIEF — A FRIEND.
FALK & BARRY 6/25


THE DAILY JOURNAL!
"CRIME SCHOOL" GANG CAUGHT— POLICE FOIL $3 MILLION ROBBERY ATTEMPT
"EX-CONVICTS HEADED GANG, BRINGING YOUNG DELINQUENTS INTO MAJOR CRIME!" SAYS CHIEF—

T.N.T.— THAT MASKED GUY HE DID IT ALL!
SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
THIS BLASTED MARK WON'T COME OFF!

DAVE — THOSE MARKS? WHAT DO THEY MEAN?
DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN, CHIEF— SO I WON'T TRY.

IF THEY ONLY KNEW— ALL YOU'VE DONE! IT'S AMAZING!
ALL IN A DAY'S WORK, DIANA.